

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 077849
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 PM-05 COME-00 INT-05
NSF-01 INR-10 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB:MJB
APPROVED BY OES/OFA/MST:WERB
L/OES - MRS. HOINKES
ARA/AND/V - MR. SERGEANT
CNO - CDR. ANDERSON (SUB)
-----129598 250939Z /10

P R 250318Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY
INFO CNO WASHDC (CHIEF OF NAVY OPERATIONS)
SEC OF DEF WASHDC
COMSC WASHDC
NAVOCEANO SUITLAND MD
OCEANAV ALEX VA
CINCLANTFLT NORFOLK VA
NORDA BAY ST LOUIS MS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 077849

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TOCY, VE

SUBJECT: USNS BARTLETT CARIACO TRENCH RESEARCH

REF: (A) CARACAS 2794 (B) CNO 180032Z MAR 78

1. DEPARTMENT AND NAVY AGREE THAT A DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE
REQUEST TO GOV FOR BARTLETT RESEARCH WOULD BE INAPPRO-
PRIATE. OPPOSING POSITIONS REPORTED REFTEL A ARE CORRECT
IN THAT U.S. DOES NOT RECOGNIZE VENEZUELAN SOVEREIGNTY
OVER CARIACO TRENCH; HOWEVER, VENEZUELANS WOULD CLAIM
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THAT WE SHOULD.

2. REFTEL B PROPOSED A SOLUTION TO PROBLEM BY REQUESTING
DAO TO INFORM COUNTERPARTS IN GOV OF PLANNED RESEARCH AND
TO INVITE VENEZUELAN PARTICIPATION. THIS APPROACH HAS
BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN PAST WHEN JURISDICTIONAL CONFLICTS
HAVE PREVENTED PROCESSING A CLEARANCE REQUEST. BENEFITS

TO GOV ACQUIRED BY PARTICIPATING IN CRUISE SHOULD BE
INCENTIVE FOR THEM TO AGREE TO THIS APPROACH.

3. DEPT AND NAVY AGREE THAT DAO SHOULD ATTEMPT TO USE
INVITATION APPROACH UTILIZING BACKGROUND INFORMATION
PROVIDED REFTEL B. (TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION TO GOV
SHOULD BE IN FORM OF DESCRIPTION OF CRUISE AND INVITATION

TO PARTICIPATE. USE OF TERM NOTIFICATION SHOULD BE
AVOIDED IN THAT GOV MAY CONSTRUE THIS TO BE RECOGNITION
OF THEIR CLAIM.) DATES OF CRUISE HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO
12 MAY - 1 JUNE FROM 14-30 APRIL. THIS CHANGE WILL
PROVIDE LONGER LEAD-TIME FOR GOV TO ARRANGE PARTICIPATION.
DAO SHOULD DELAY PROCESSING INVITATION UNTIL AFTER
PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT TO AVOID POSSIBLE INTERFERENCE.

4. IF IN EMBASSY'S JUDGMENT INVITATION APPROACH IS
UNSATISFACTORY PLEASE REPORT BACK. VANCE

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NNN

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